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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/518,222 Confirmation No.: 5724
Applicant(s): DiRusso et al.
Filed: 12/15/2004
Art Unit: 3739
Examiner: Kasztejna, Matthew John
Title: Flexible Endoscope
Attorney Docket No.: 012A.0063.U1(US)
Customer No.: 29,683

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response To Office Action

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 12/22/2008 in regard to the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-6, 9-12 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boury (US 5,916,147). Claims 7-8 and 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boury (US 5,916,147) in view of Ogura et al. (US 6,639,213). Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boury (US 5,916,147) in view of Grabover et al. (US 5,938,588). The examiner is requested to reconsider these rejections.

Column 7, lines 46-52 of Boury clearly describes the ability to curve the catheter in multiple planes with two distinct arcs 36A and 36B, each lying in a different plane. Column 5, lines 40-45 clearly describes the four control wires 34A-D being attached to the different nodes 32A-D as the examiner